



Saskatchewan's Beverage Container Recycling Program

About Beverage Container Recycling

The mandate of the Beverage Container Collection and Recycling Program is to provide a provincial system to collect and recycle beverage containers distributed in Saskatchewan.

The program is based on four main elements:

1. Beverages and containers included in the program are designated under *The Environmental Management and Protection Regulations* pursuant to *The Environmental Management and Protection Act, 2010*.
2. Designated beverage containers must be registered with SARCAN prior to being distributed in Saskatchewan.
3. Manufacturers and distributors of beverages in the province must report the amount of beverages distributed and remit to the Saskatchewan Ministry of Finance the environmental handling charge and the refundable deposit for each container distributed.
4. The environmental handling charges (EHCs) are used to fund the collection and recycling of the beverage containers while the refundable deposits are used to provide an incentive to the consumer to recycle the containers. Collection of the beverage containers and refunding of deposits to the public is carried out by SARCAN Recycling through a province-wide depot system.

Designated Beverages

Beverages that may be designated under *The Environmental Management and Protection Act* include "...any liquid intended for human consumption by drinking...". To date, designated beverages are those that are "ready to serve" (i.e. ready for immediate consumption by the purchaser) and fall within the following categories:

- beverage alcohol as defined in *The Alcohol and Gaming Regulation Act*;
- carbonated and non-carbonated soft drinks and fruit drinks;
- fruit and vegetable juices;
- non-alcoholic beer and wine; and
- tea, water, and fluid milk.

Designated Containers

Containers currently designated under *The Environmental Management and Protection Regulations* include metal cans, plastic bottles, non-refillable glass bottles, multi-material, shelf-stable containers (i.e. aseptic, juice box, Tetra-Pak type containers) and paper-based, polycoat, gable-top containers (i.e. milk carton type containers).

Containers not included in the program include: foil pouches, containers larger than five litres, meal replacements*, baby juices and formula, and concentrates (anything that has to mix with something else in order to be consumed).

*"Meal Replacement" must be visible on the container label. Labelling requirements are defined by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency.

About Environmental Handling Charges and Refundable Deposits

The Government of Saskatchewan changed the deposit amounts in 2017. This is the first change to deposit amounts since 1992. Higher deposit rates provide an incentive for consumers to return their containers for refund, thereby diverting waste from landfills. The \$0.02 EHC increase implemented in 2018 ensures the long term sustainability of the program and covers the cost of recycling. The table below shows the EHC and deposit amount for each of the container types.

Container Type	Environmental Handling Charge (EHC) as of April 1, 2018	Deposit as of April 1, 2017	Total Amount (per container)
Metal Cans	\$0.07	\$0.10 <1L \$0.25 1L +	\$0.17 \$0.32
Plastic Bottles	\$0.08	\$0.10 <1L \$0.25 1L +	\$0.18 \$0.33
Glass	\$0.09	\$0.10 < 300 ml \$0.20 301-999 ml \$0.40 1L+	\$0.19 \$0.29 \$0.49
Shelf Stable Aseptic/Polycoat	\$0.05	\$0.10 <1L \$0.25 1L	\$0.15 \$0.30

Legislation, Bulletins and Forms

[Beverage Container Program](#) (The Ministry of Finance)

[The Environmental Management and Protection Act](#)

[The Environmental Management and Protection \(General\) Regulations](#)

For more information, please contact the Ministry of Environment toll-free at 1-800-567-4224 or centre.inquiry@gov.sk.ca. For questions about remittance of fees, please contact the Ministry of Finance toll-free at 1-800-667-6102.

Registration

The registration process for beverage containers is through SARCAN. You can access the registration information on SARCAN's website:

https://www.sarc.ca/pages/register_new_beverages.html.

If you have questions about registration, please contact SARCAN at 1-306-933-0616.

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